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SC-01678-66

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21 APR 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: Establishment of a Task Force to Provide
Quick Reaction on Certain Technical
Operations

REFERENCE: Memorandum to DD/S&T from D/OSP, Subject
as Above (SC-02717-66, 10 March 1966)

1. The suggestion of reference relates to a problem and a suggested solution that has been with us for many years. The establishment of a standby force with appropriate equipment has long seemed to have many desirable aspects, but it is difficult to establish such a group on a permanent basis which would immediately be available to dispatch on any and all problems. The varied capabilities required and the various personal situations involved dictate that these requirements be met by the selection of pertinent people when the problem is defined and the other requirements reviewed. Further, restrictions on personnel slots have been an insurmountable difficulty to this date. At the present, it might be possible to assign one man on a more-or-less permanent basis as the coordinator-manager of such an effort. This man could be assigned the tasks of insuring that sufficient equipment is available to accomplish directed missions, and that appropriate personnel are "on call".

2. Early in 1964 the Office of ELINT considered the establishment of fly-away teams but because of the reasons cited above the idea was abandoned in favor of utilizing all of our people on TDY when necessary, and thereby having the option of selecting those most appropriate for the job. To date this system has worked quite well. The examples cited in the reference may indicate that better efforts could have been mounted but we must also realize that the establishment of a permanent team with exceptional capabilities and equipments developed with no more foresight than is presently possible, could also have many shortcomings.



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3. The Office of ELINT is continually working on equipments which can be utilized in such operations, and fly-away kits are currently under development. It is hoped that these and future follow-on equipments can be versatile enough to meet our various requirements.

4. There may be a way to provide a better and more flexible system involving a combined tasking of our quick reaction development facility, our training facility, and specific individuals who might form fly away teams. We are investigating the virtues of such a possibility and if it appears feasible I will discuss it with you at a later date.

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GEORGE C. MILLER
Director of ELINT
DD/S&T

cc: D/OSP

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